



Tennessee Crop Weather

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In Cooperation with Tennessee Department of Agriculture

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Week Ending August 12, 2007

EXTREME HEAT, NO RAIN STRAINING CROPS AND LIVESTOCK

With high temperatures and no rainfall this past week, farmers across Tennessee are definitely feeling the impact of the continuing drought. Crop and pasture conditions continued to fall into the very poor to poor categories. With no rain, there were 7 days considered suitable for fieldwork last week. The main field activities were harvesting corn silage and vegetables. Tobacco topping also made good progress last week, with harvest in its second week. Virtually all the cotton crop was setting bolls with a handful of fields beginning to open. Soybean development continued slightly ahead of normal, while most of the crop is setting pods. The State’s corn crop continues to move closer to harvest with over a fifth of the acreage now mature. Growers also devoted time to insect and disease scouting, while livestock producers continued providing supplemental feeds and hauling water.

Much of Tennessee remains in the severe to exceptional drought category. Topsoil moisture levels were rated 56 percent very short, 33 percent short, and 11 percent adequate. Subsoil moisture levels were rated 60 percent very short, 31 percent short, and 9 percent adequate. Temperatures were 8 to 12 degrees above normal last week, while rainfall was well below average.

CROP PROGRESS					CONDITION					
Crop	This Week	Last Week	2006	Five Year Avg.	Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Percent					Percent					
Corn – Dough	96	88	98	96	Corn	22	31	33	14	0
Corn – Dent	86	65	83	78	Cotton	1	12	36	44	7
Corn – Mature	21	7	16	16	Pastures	39	31	21	9	0
Corn – Harvested for Silage	47	22	45	30	Soybeans	19	27	36	18	0
Cotton – Setting Bolls	96	93	99	96	Tobacco	7	12	40	38	3
Soybeans – Blooming	93	88	99	90						
Soybeans – Setting Pods	83	72	91	75						
Tobacco – Topped	66	47	68	67						
Tobacco – Burley Harvested	14	6	14	13						
Tobacco – Dark Air-Cured Harvested	22	6	8	10						
Tobacco – Dark Fire-Cured Harvested	19	12	15	15						

County Agent Comments

“Extremely hot and extremely dry weather has hurt grain crops tremendously. Corn is drying down prematurely, soybeans are suffering. Extreme temperatures with windy conditions have had a "blow-torch" effect on crops this week, with no relief in sight.”

Jeff Lannom, Weakley County

“The Dog Days of Summer have come in with a bang. Crops and livestock have had a tough week dealing with 100 degree days and 80 degree nights. After some relief seen in July with a few scattered showers, crops have taken a giant step back over the last 10 days. There have been reports of ponds, small creeks and wells going dry resulting in livestock producers hauling water to their animals.”

Calvin Bryant, Lawrence County

“Extremely hot weather and no rain have turned a decent tobacco crop south. We received a rain on Aug. 3 and some things greened up but since hotter and drier and tobacco has changed its hot outlook last week. People are culling more cattle, selling calves early and feeding short. We need rain bad and cooler temps.”

Jason Evitts, Trousdale County

“Rainfall in July helped but it did not last long because the soil was so dry to start with. Grass started turning green and growing some but now we are extremely hot and dry again. Hay stocks are very short. Many beef producers sold their calves early and reduced the size of their cow herds. What rain we have got has been timely for tobacco and corn; we are not hurt as bad on those crops as we are on forages.”

Mike Heiskell, Claiborne County

“No rain and high temperatures have completely evaporated any remaining moisture from the soil which has totally stopped all crop growth. Pasture fields would burn where there is enough residue to fuel a fire. Most producers are feeding hay while some producers are reducing cattle or in some situations liquidating their herds. Livestock ponds, streams and springs are drying up and creating major problems for livestock producers.”

Bob Sliger, Monroe County

TEMPERATURES AND PRECIPITATION
For week ending: August 12, 2007 (with comparisons)

LOCATION	TEMPERATURE				PRECIPITATION					
	Week Ending August 12, 2007				Current Week 08/12/07	Rain Days	Current Since January 1	Departure From Normal January 1	Current Since April 1	Departure From Normal April 1
	HI	LO	AVG	DFN						
Ames_Plantation	102	67	86	8	0.00	0	18.92	-14.57	11.28	-8.44
Tri-City_RGNL_A	96	64	80	6	0.00	0	16.00	-10.68	10.48	-5.83
Brownsville_TN	100	71	87	8	0.00	0	17.12	-16.42	9.33	-10.41
Chattanooga/Lov	100	73	87	9	0.00	0	22.52	-11.68	15.27	-3.20
Clarksville_Sew	106	67	88	11	0.00	0	23.95	-8.06	14.83	-3.53
Cookeville	99	67	83	8	0.00	0	22.10	-14.26	12.20	-9.13
Covington	100	71	85	7	0.00	0	21.62	-11.25	12.84	-6.35
Crossville_AP	93	65	81	9	0.14	1	23.31	-12.59	16.29	-4.59
Dayton	97	69	84	7	0.09	1	21.76	-13.99	15.13	-4.60
Dickson_AG	102	63	84	7	0.00	0	22.06	-12.21	12.47	-7.79
Dover_1W	103	66	87	10	0.00	0	21.40	-11.87	11.02	-8.35
Dyersburg	100	70	87	8	0.00	0	19.33	-12.57	10.25	-8.83
Erwin_1W	95	66	80	9	0.00	0	22.26	-10.03	16.64	-4.14
Huntingdon_Wate	102	66	87	10	0.00	0	16.54	-16.86	8.13	-11.51
Jackson_Exp_Stn	102	66	86	8	0.00	0	17.52	-15.80	8.84	-11.20
Kingston_AG	97	68	82	8	0.05	1	23.95	-13.72	15.75	-5.84
Knoxville_AP	96	71	84	8	0.00	0	21.57	-9.59	14.53	-3.31
Lewisburg	102	60	85	8	0.00	0	22.01	-13.36	14.38	-6.41
Lexington_TN	103	68	86	9	0.00	0	18.36	-14.16	8.77	-10.56
Linden	102	66	85	9	0.00	0	20.17	-15.45	11.01	-9.62
Martin	100	68	87	10	0.09	1	21.96	-11.76	10.99	-9.49
Mc_Minnville_Tn	99	64	85	9	0.08	1	21.83	-12.54	14.81	-5.14
Memphis_AG	102	72	87	6	0.00	0	21.51	-11.10	13.54	-5.58
Milan	102	62	86	9	0.00	0	19.05	-15.24	10.81	-9.86
Murfreesboro_5N	103	64	86	9	0.00	0	23.40	-10.43	12.52	-7.53
Nashville_Metro	104	73	89	11	0.00	0	17.49	-12.90	9.92	-8.23
Newcomb	95	67	81	9	0.00	0	24.43	-10.77	16.42	-4.91
Oneida	96	67	82	9	0.13	2	22.72	-12.48	15.22	-6.11
Portland_TN	102	68	86	10	0.00	0	22.94	-10.14	13.58	-6.20
Pulaski_Water_P	101	64	84	6	0.00	0	17.90	-17.16	8.86	-10.81
Savannah_6SW	104	68	87	8	0.00	0	20.28	-16.06	11.62	-9.26
Sparta_TN	99	62	84	8	0.00	0	21.46	-13.89	13.07	-7.71
Springfield	105	69	86	10	0.00	0	20.68	-11.16	11.79	-7.18
Springhill	104	70	87	10	0.00	0	20.73	-14.64	11.23	-9.53
Union_City	100	65	84	8	0.01	1	21.63	-11.16	11.42	-8.19
Waynesboro_TN	101	67	84	8	0.00	0	21.76	-15.46	13.57	-7.88

DFN = Departure From Normal (Using 1961-90 Normals Period). Rain Days = Days with precip of 0.01 inch or more during the week. Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches.
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